



## **Webinar on Building back better from Covid-19: Reinforcing the nexus of peace, security, development, humanitarian affairs and human rights in policy design and implementation in Africa**

**11 November, 2021**

### **Context**

It is recognized that there can be no peace and security without development, and no development without peace and security, and neither without respect for human rights. In January 2016 at the Security Council Open Debate on “*Challenges of Maintaining Peace and Security in Fragile Contexts*”, the Secretary-General noted that interdependence and inclusion must be at the core of a more ambitious approach to end the cycle of poverty and conflict, within the context of sustainable development. And yet, sustainable development seems to be threatened by the economic cost of conflict. For example, the International Monetary Fund found that the economic impact of conflict in sub-Saharan Africa is significant.



However, the COVID-19 pandemic has also provided opportunities for some African Governments to promote the use of the nexus approach and the response has brought actors and key stakeholders together from across various ministries to tackle the pandemic. This suggests that the appropriate response to build back better post-pandemic entails that development actors should work in an integrated manner, and not in silos, in order to create value-chains through an integrated multi-sectoral approach. A lesson learned from this pandemic going forward is that a nexus approach will offer advantages for strategic foresight, anticipation, and pre-emptive action for African countries.

The UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) commissioned a nexus study in 2020, which was complemented by ECA sub-regional studies, to help promote the synergy between the pillars of peace and security, humanitarian work, development and human rights in Africa. One of the key findings was the fact that conflict, instability and insecurity were the greatest single obstacle for achieving SDGs and Agenda 2063, followed cumulatively by social and economic inequalities and political challenges. Also, according to the report of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, the scourge of terrorism, violent extremism, transnational organized crime and trafficking have assumed an unprecedented scale of expansion and intensity within the Continent.<sup>2</sup>

Based on the above, and with the sponsorship of the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund, the Office of the Special Adviser in Africa, the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS), and the UN African Institute for Economic Development and Planning have recently designed and implemented an on-line training course under the title *“Designing and Implementing policies that promote the nexus or interlinkages between development,*



## **Format**

- Online Conference

## **Duration**

- 1h30

## **Language**

- English with interpretation into French

## **Contacts**

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